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The initiative for a diamond open access journal in the field of geomorphology: an effort grounded on and guided by EDI concepts

Alice Lefebvre¹, Melanie Stammler², **Guillaume Goodwin**³, Rachel Bosch⁴, Roberto Fernández⁵, and Stuart W D Grieve⁶

¹MARUM, University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany (alefebvre@marum.de)

²Department of Geography University of Bonn Bonn, Germany

³CIMoLa - Center for Lagoon Hydrodynamics and Morphodynamics University of Padova Padova, Italy

⁴Northern Kentucky University, USA

⁵Energy and Environment Institute University of Hull Hull, UK

⁶Queen Mary University of London London, UK

In recent years, the traditional scientific publication system which operates with subscriptions for readers, and sometimes charges for authors, has been challenged. Open access journals have been funded, and subscription journals offer options for open access publications. Open access is an essential approach for lowering barriers in science, for supporting equal access to information, and for encouraging scientifically-based decisions by providing the newest findings and data to a large and diverse audience.

However, common open access options come with Article Processing Charges (APCs), which can vary from a few hundred to several thousand euros, to publish a paper. In contrast to the idea of inclusivity that is initiated by the open access process, these charges create exclusivity in terms of publishing possibilities - limiting equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). Several funding bodies and universities in Northern and Western Europe encourage the open access process by dedicating funds to cover publication costs for research staff. In contrast, many researchers from institutions in developing countries, small universities or private research organisations must include these costs in sometimes limited research budgets. Moreover, researchers on temporary contracts with limited access to research funds due to the nature of their employment also face barriers to publishing in open access outlets. As a result, inclusivity toward readers often comes at the cost of exclusivity toward authors.

In the last three years, an initiative has grown in the geoscientific community to create diamond open access journals, which are free to access, free to read, and free to publish, for all. This started with *Volcanica*, and now, *Seismica*, *Tektonika* and *Sedimentologica* have launched their own community-led, field-specific journals. One key component of these initiatives is their inherent relation to the concepts of equity, diversity, and inclusion, which underlay and guide their every aspect.

Here, we discuss ideas on how to build a future geomorphology diamond open access journal -

Geomorphic(k)a - around EDI values. Our effort is grounded in EDI principles from the start, not as an afterthought; EDI guides our actions.

We welcome input from all sectors of the geoscientific community to help us continually improve the initiative. We will share our plans to integrate EDI in the journal development. We would welcome feedback, comments, ideas and a stimulating discussion.